

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASTRONAUT TO U.S. EXHIBIT IN YEREVAN

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING FROM NASA DONNELLY TO ASTRONAUT BEAN, NASA ASTP DELEGATION.

2. QUOTE USIA HAS ASKED FOR ASTRONAUT TO REPRESENT THE US AT OPENING CEREMONIES OF OUTDOOR RECREATION-U.S.A. EXHIBIT IN YEREVAN DECEMBER 2. ASTRONAUT WOULD OFFICIATE AT OPENING DAY CEREMONIES WITH USIA PAYING ALL COSTS AND PROVIDING ESCORT. USIA FEELS ASTRONAUT PARTICIPATION WOULD GREATLY BOLSTER OPENING AND BE SERVICE US.

3. QUOTE EXHIBITS, WHICH CONDUCTED UNDER US/USSR EXCHANGES AGREEMENT, ARE MAJOR MEANS COMMUNICATING WITH SOVIET PEOPLE ON AMERICAN THEMES. THIS EXHIBIT SEEN BY CLOSE TO 2 MILLION SOVIETS AND YEREVAN FOURTH STOP. PRACTICE IS TO HAVE DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN PRESIDE AT OPENING.

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OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONALS, CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS AND

VICE-PRESIDENT NIXON IN 1959, HAVE IN PAST.

4. QUOTE OUTDOOR RECREATION-U.S.A. PRESENTS PANORAMA OF RECREATION FACILITIES AND HABITS OF AMERICAN PEOPLE. INCLUDES PRESENTATION NATIONAL PARKS SYSTEM, WIDE RANGE RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, AND EXAMPLES SPORTS AND OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT.

5. QUOTE USIA DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GIFFORD MALONE OF EAST EUROPE AREA ARRIVING MOSCOW FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30. WOULD PROCEED WITH ASTRONAUT TO YEREVAN DECEMBER 1 FOR OPENING NEXT DAY.

6. QUOTE WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERTAKE THIS ASSIGNMENT. IF NOT, CAN EVANS OR LOUSMA DO SO? PLEASE ADVISE. AL SHEPARD CONCURS IN THIS REQUEST. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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